

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below adjacent to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of subject matter (process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or an improvement thereof) which is claimed and for which a patent is sought by way of the application entitled "A System and Method Including A Merging Driver for Accessing Multiple Data Sources" which

is attached hereto.
 and is amended by the Preliminary Amendment attached hereto.
 was filed on _____
as Application Serial No. _____
 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claims of the application entitled "A System and Method Including a Merging Driver for Accessing Multiple Data Sources", as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to me which is material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed
	European Patent Office (Number)	14 December 1999 (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
NA	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
NA	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY (continued)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

NA _____
(Application Serial No.) _____ (Filing Date) _____ (Status-patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the attorney(s) and/or agent(s) identified by

Customer Number 24209

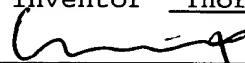
to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Address all correspondence and telephone calls to:

Forrest Gunnison
Gunnison, McKay & Hodgson, L.L.P.
1900 Garden Road, Suite 220
Monterey, CA 93940

Telephone: 831-655-0880
Facsimile: 831-655-0888

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, United States Code, § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor Thorsten Laux
Inventor's signature  Date 12/1/00
Residence Hamburg, Germany Citizenship Germany
Post Office Address Lange Reihe 67
D-20099 Hamburg, Germany